



City of Clermont

Jenn Clutts, Communications Coordinator
352-973-1370, jclutts@clermontfl.org
685 W. Montrose St., Clermont, FL 34711
www.ClermontFL.gov

NEWS RELEASE

City of Clermont Invites Community to Sept. 11 Memorial Ceremony

CLERMONT (Aug. 12, 2021) – Join the City of Clermont for a special Sept. 11 Memorial Ceremony.

In commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the events of 9/11, the city's ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. Sat., Sept. 11 at the Clermont Arts and Recreation Center, 3700 S. U.S. Highway 27.

"Clermont will never forget the tragedy of 9/11," Mayor Tim Murry said. "It's important to honor the first responders, all who lost their lives and those still suffering today."

Special guest speakers include Mayor Murry, Police Chief Charles Broadway, Fire Chief David Ezell and New York City Fire Department retired Lt. Billy Pickett and retired Supervising Fire Marshal Pete Capece.

"Our first responders, true heroes, selflessly put their own lives at risk for people every single day," said Chief Broadway, a former New York City Police detective who responded to Ground Zero and assisted with search and recovery efforts. "It is an honor to serve this city as the chief of police. Collectively as a community, we will continue to honor and recognize the men and women who are no longer with us because of the terrorist acts on U.S. soil."

The Clermont Fire, Police and U.S. Naval Sea Cadets Corps honor guards will participate, as well as the City of Mount Dora Pipes and Drums.

Clermont Police Chaplain Mike Saxe will lead the invocation; Saxe is a retired New York City Police officer and 9/11 first responder.

Central Florida native and country music entertainer Patrick Gibson will sing the national anthem, along with his original song, "The American Prayer."



The City of Clermont's 9/11 Memorial Ceremony will take place 10 a.m. Sat., Sept. 11 at the Clermont Arts and Recreation Center.



Clermont Police Chief Charles Broadway is with the new 9/11 memorial vehicle.

playing “Taps.”

“It has been 20 years since the U.S. was attacked in an attempt to crush the American spirit, an attack that killed 343 firefighters,” Chief Ezell said. “Ceremonies like this one allow us to honor the memory of our brothers and sisters who gave their lives, as well as ensuring their legacy is never forgotten and continues to live on in our next generation of first responders.”

The ceremony will include various demonstrations, such as the ringing of a ceremonial bell and a 21-gun salute by the South Lake County Marine Corps League Detachment 1120. Local musician Allen Venezia will help close the ceremony while

Outside, a special Clermont Police 9/11 memorial vehicle will be showcased. Also, a Clermont Fire ladder truck will display a large American flag.

Admission to the ceremony is free. However, seats are limited and tickets must be reserved ahead of time for entry at <https://bit.ly/Sept11Reservation>.

Uniformed personnel, veterans and first responders are invited to a free, small reception with food provided by Sonny’s BBQ in the Clermont Room immediately following the ceremony. Tickets for the reception are required and can be picked up in the main lobby on the day of the ceremony.



Clermont Fire Chief David Ezell, center, and firefighters display the flag from the ladder truck.



SEPT. 11 MEMORIAL CEREMONY

20 years later

Let us never forget

**10 a.m. Sat., Sept. 11
Clermont Arts & Recreation Center
3700 S. U.S. Highway 27**

Presentations by
Clermont Fire and Police,
Sea Cadet Honor Guard
and special guests

Ticket Reservations Required
<https://bit.ly/Sept11Reservation>

###

About the City of Clermont. Clermont, Fla., is known as the Choice of Champions® due to its international reputation as a training ground for elite athletes and the community's celebration of the championship spirit. Founded in 1884 as a model town, the city of 44,000 is about 20 miles west of Orlando and is set among picturesque hills and pristine lakes. Clermont is the largest city in Lake County. More at www.ClermontFL.gov.